

2011
Montrose Interagency Dispatch Center
Year End Report

Representing the following Cooperating Agencies

**Bureau of Land Management
United States Forest Service
National Park Service
Colorado State Forest Service
Delta, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montrose, Ouray, Saguache & San Miguel County**

The Montrose Interagency Fire Management Unit experienced an average fire year in regards to starts and acres. We responded to an increasing amount of human starts this year. The amount of resource orders that were processed in support of other fire programs decreased dramatically, but our internal logistical support to the fire program grew significantly.

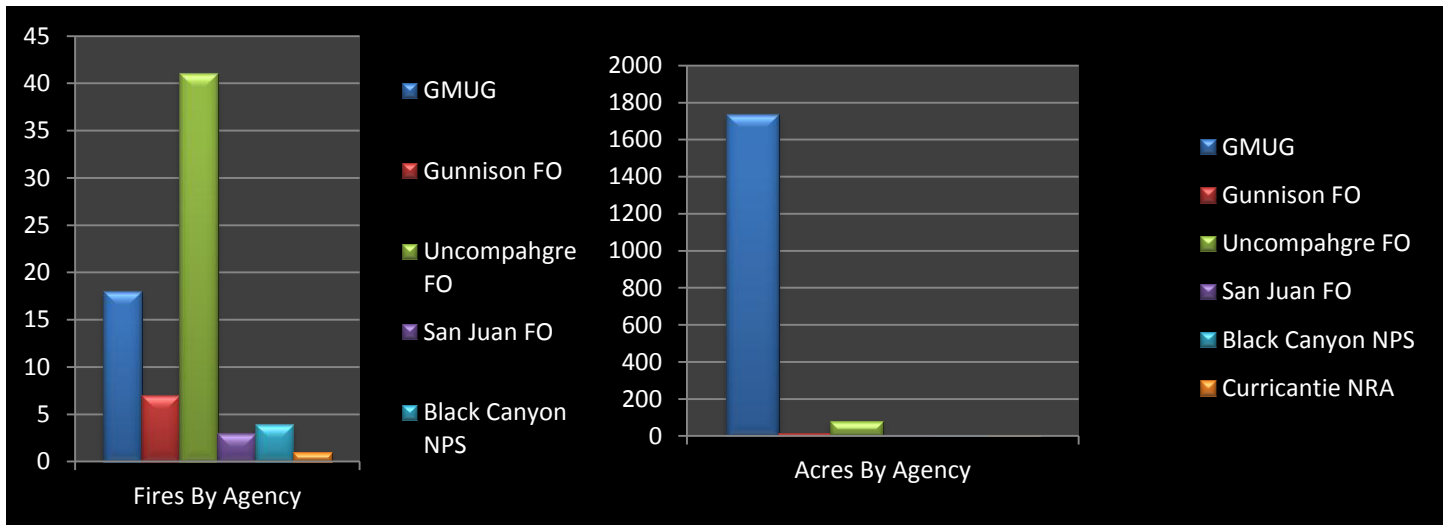
There were two management fires, over 100 acres, this year in the West Zone. The Jeep Fire, 560 acres in West Zone (Norwood) and Big A, 1012 Acres in the West Zone (Norwood). Jeep started on July 19th and was called out on September 19th. The Unawep Fire Module was ordered to assist us with this Incident. The Big A fire started on August 3rd and was called out on September 21st. The Juniper Valley Type 2 Crew from Buena Vista was ordered to assist us with this fire. The dispatch office supported multiple management fires throughout the Zones ranging from 20 – 99 acres throughout the fire season and there were an average amount of suppression fires.

This spring our snow pack was above normal, during fire season the weather patterns across the zones were typical for this area. Spring was slightly dry and generally cool, summer precipitation was above average and temperatures were average. We did experience a fall with less snow which inhibited some pile burning but has allowed for broadcast burns into the New Year. A continued lack of moisture and various other contributing factors could lead to an interesting if not sustainably busier year for the Montrose Interagency Fire Dispatch.



MIFMU FIRES BY AGENCY

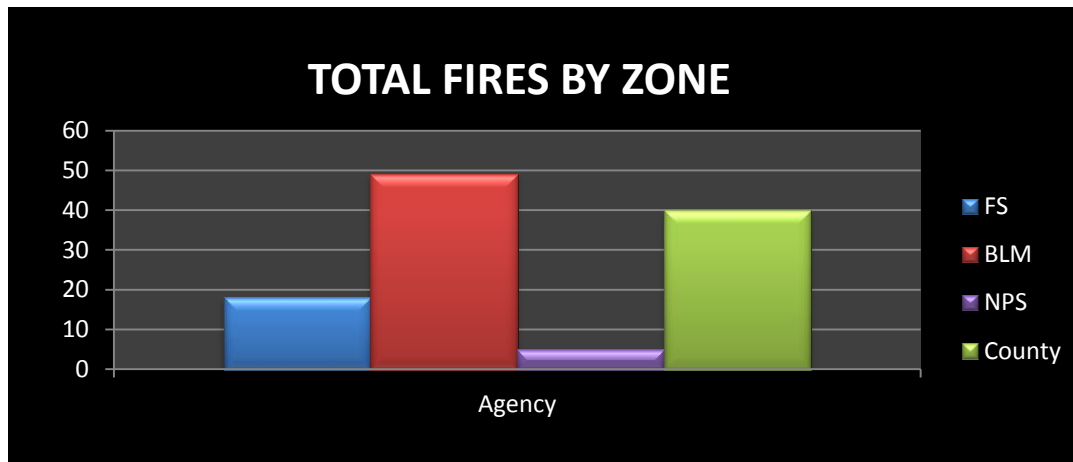
Agency	HUMAN		LIGHTNING		MMO		TOTAL	
	Fires	Acres					Fires	Acres
GMUG	3	0.3	12	98.4	3	1637	18	1735.7
Gunnison FO	3	1.55	4	13			7	14.55
Uncompahgre FO	5	0.5	33	52.95	3	26.95	41	80.4
San Juan FO			3	0.45			3	0.45
Black Canyon NPS	1	1	2	0.2	1	0.1	4	1.3
Curricantie NRA	1	0.5					1	0.5
TOTAL	13	3.85	54	165	7	1664.05	73	1832.9



MIFMU FIRES BY ZONE

Agency	East Zone		West Zone		TOTAL	
	Fires	Acres	Fires	Acres	Fires	Acres
FS	8	66.60	10	1669.10	18	1,735.70
BLM	7	14.55	42	90.40	49	104.95
NPS	1	0.50	4	1.30	5	1.80
County	4	1.85	36	388.10	40	389.95
TOTAL	20	83.50	92	2148.90	112	2,232.40

**Norwood zone includes SJD in BLM totals*



MIFMU FIVE YEAR AVERAGE - FIRES

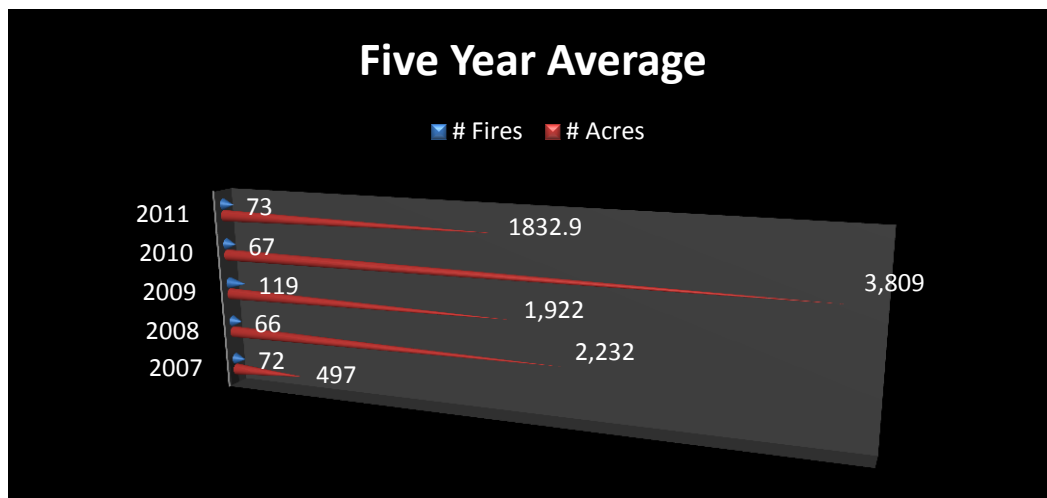
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Average	+/- AVG
# Fires	72	66	119	67	73	79.4	-12.4
# Acres	497	2,232	1,922	3,809	1832.9	1,707	2,102

Ten Year Averages

# Fires	122	107
# Acres	6528	6873

Twenty Year Average

# Fires	123	114
# Acres	4972	3665



RESOURCE ORDERS

MOBILIZED RESOURCES (out of area)

Overhead	78	Overhead	51
Aircraft	0	Aircraft	3
Crew	1	Crew	7
Equipment	16	Equipment	10
Aircraft		Aircraft	3

ORDERED RESOURCES (form out of area)

GUNNISON RIVER CREW MOBILIZATION

Date	Incident Name	State	Unit ID
2011	Coffintop	CO	CO-ARF

MTC FIVE YEAR AVERAGE – RESOURCE ORDERS

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Average
Overhead	165	185	98	201	129	155.6
Crew	7	5	13	9	8	8.4
Equipment	20	78	68	93	26	57
Aircraft	12	11	41	25	3	18.4

FUELS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

	Mechanical				Prescribed Fire				Other(chemical, cheatgrass)			
	WUI		Non WUI		WUI		Non WUI		WUI		Non WUI	
	Treat	Acres	Treat	Acres	Treat	Acres	Treat.	Acres	Treat.	Acres	Treat.	Acres
Uncompahgre FO	7	2086	2	311	2	311			1	22		
Gunnison FO	1	106			1	70	1	15				
Curacanti RA												
Black Canyon NP												
Gunnison RD	3	526	2	130			6	2682				
Ouray RD					2	103	1	113				
Paonia RD												
Norwood RD							1	1174				
USFS	3	526	2	130	2	103	8	3969				
NPS												
BLM	8	2192	2	311	3	381	1	15				
TOTALS	22	5436	8	882	10	968	18	7968	1	22		

Montrose Interagency Fire Management Unit 2011 Incident Qualification and Training Summary

For 2011 the Montrose Interagency Fire Management Unit (MIFMU) issued a total of 220 Incident Qualification Cards (red cards). Approximately 25 new position taskbooks were initiated in 2011 covering all facets of the Incident Command System (ICS). A total of 29 taskbooks were completed this season.

The following is a breakdown of taskbook totals by unit:

	Active Taskbooks	Certified Taskbooks
BLM	14	13
USFS	18	16
NPS	4	0
Totals	36	29

MIFMU has a very active training program; including on-the-job and local, state, regional and national classroom settings. Approximately 90 training nominations were processed for 2011. MIFMU sponsors, coordinates and instructs numerous courses locally and throughout the Rocky Mountain Region each year.

The Interagency Fire Qualifications Review Committee met to review taskbooks of and to determine personnel qualifications and taskbook completions. The committee reviews the Incident Qualifications Card System (IQCS) cards each year for validity. After this review, unit shortage categories are determined and positions within these categories are focused on for training and further qualification.



Mitigation and Education Program

Education/Outreach:

- The MIFMU Monthly newsletter is produced to inform internal and external stakeholders of the activities and accomplishments of the fire program, wildfire mitigation information, related research, and current events. The newsletter is available on the MIFMU and BLM Uncompahgre Field Office websites, as well as being distributed to WRWC members.
- 4 wildfire education/mitigation programs delivered to civic groups and fire departments.
- 12 Smokey Bear presentations delivered to schools and appearances at regional events.
- 3 wildland fire training courses offered to cooperators in 2011 included S-130, S-131, and S-190.
- MIFMU website is being revised to include more wildfire mitigation and education topics.

Grants & Agreements:

- Community Assistance (CA): The BLM has been working cooperatively with fire departments, local governments, community service organizations, educational institutions and non-profit organizations to help mitigate fire hazards, along with providing fire safety education and planning for catastrophic wildfire events in the vicinity of lands managed by the BLM. In 2011, MIFMU provided \$171,000.00 to the West Region Wildfire Council in support of implementation of fuels projects on private lands as well as a regional coordinator to assist local governments with implementation of their Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs).
- Ready Reserve Program (RRP): The purpose of RRP is to increase wildland fire operational safety, effectiveness, and capacity of rural fire departments serving as cooperators with the DOI. In 2011, MIFMU provided three NWCG wildland fire training courses for cooperators and received an additional \$3000.00 in RRP funding to provide wildland fire training courses to local cooperators in FY12.
- Rural Fire Assistance (RFA): The RFA program provides funding to improve the capacity and capabilities of rural and volunteer fire departments that protect rural communities and play a substantial cooperative role in the suppression of wildland fires within, or in the vicinity of lands managed by the BLM. There was no funding for RFA in Colorado in 2011.

Planning:

- The Wildfire Prevention Guide for the Montrose Interagency Fire Management Unit (MIFMU) was developed in 2010 as an interagency wildfire prevention resource for the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National Forests (USFS); Gunnison and Uncompahgre Field Offices (BLM); Curecanti National Recreation Area and Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park (NPS). The MIFMU Wildfire Prevention Guide will be updated in FY12.
- Provided assistance in the development of the BLM's National Fire Mitigation, Education and Prevention Plan.
- Assisted with the revision of the BLM's National Fire Trespass Handbook (Handbook) revision. The Handbook calls for the development of a state and unit fire trespass plan. Currently, the Colorado/Wyoming Fire Trespass Plan is in draft form, and the MIFMU Fire Trespass Plan is under development.
- Community Wildfire Protection Plans: HFRA supports the role of communities in federal land management planning by providing an opportunity to influence where and how federal agencies implement fuel reduction projects on federal lands. A CWPP is the most effective way to take advantage of this opportunity. In Colorado, Senate Bill 09-001 required the Colorado State Forest Service to revise the minimum standards for CWPPs, ensure that County Commissioners determine the fire hazard areas in their counties, that those counties complete a CWPP within 180 days of identifying their fire hazard. All counties within MIFMU response area have completed CWPPs (6 county-wide plans). In addition, 12 community-based plans have already been completed. Recommendations in county-wide CWPPs are being implemented on a prioritized basis through assistance from WRWC.

Fire Information

- On-call PIO rotation for MIFMU was available from May through September. PIOs shared information about wildfires, prescribed fires and current condition with the public via press releases, MIFMU hotline, and Twitter.
- Fire Mitigation and Education Specialist had 3 off-unit assignments as PIO2 in 2011.

Fire Trespass

- MIFMU handled 2 fire trespass cases in 2011.
- Assisted with BLM National Fire Trespass Handbook.

West Region Wildfire Council:

- WRWC hired a contract position to coordinate activities for the regional wildfire council.

- WRWC holds monthly meetings to discuss development of CWPPs and wildfire mitigation activities being completed. In addition, WRWC provides continuing education topics for members at their monthly meetings.
- WRWC received \$171,000.00 in BLM CA funds (through their fiscal sponsor –SJMA) to conduct wildfire mitigation treatments on private lands. In 2011, WRWC provided funding for treatment of 53 acres at an average cost of \$1025/acre.
- WRWC is in the process of launching a website (www.COwildfire.org) to provide information about CWPPs, mitigation, grants, and wildfire education to its regional audience.
- WRWC has begun to develop community-based CWPPs for fire districts and communities in the regional area.

